



## Bees and Honey

Honey production from Louisiana producers with five or more colonies during 2001 totaled 4.77 million pounds, 18 percent above the 2000 level. Producers harvested honey from 45,000 colonies, and per colony production averaged 106 pounds.

Prices from the 2001 honey crop averaged \$0.60 per pound, up \$0.08 from 2000. Prices were based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and co-ops. Louisiana producers had 572,000 pounds of honey in stock on December 15, 2001, compared with 1,334,000 pounds on hand the previous year.

### Number of Colonies, Production, Stocks, and Value: Louisiana, 1998-2001

Year	Number of Colonies	Average Yield per Colony	Production	Stocks Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Average Price per Pound	Value of Production
	---1,000---	---Pounds---	-----1,000 Pounds-----		---Cents---	---\$1,000---
1998	41	111	4,551	865	59.0	2,685
1999	48	114	5,472	821	49.0	2,681
2000	43	94	4,042	1,334	52.0	2,102
2001	45	106	4,770	572	60.0	2,862



## Catfish

Louisiana ranks fourth in the nation in catfish production, number of operations, water surface acres, and total sales of catfish. Mississippi leads the nation in catfish production, followed by Arkansas and Alabama.

There were 70 commercial catfish operations in the state on January 1, 2002, down 10 from 2001. These operations, used 12,100 water acres, down 1,200 acres from 2001.

Total sales of catfish in Louisiana for the year 2001 were \$26.2 million, down 21 percent from 2000. Roughly 95 percent of this amount (\$24.8 million) was from sales of foodsize catfish. Farmers sold 40.0 million pounds of foodsize catfish in 2001 compared to 44.0 million pounds in 2000. This was at an average of 62 cents per pound, down 10 cents from 2000.

Catfish data come from the January 1, 2002, Catfish Grower's Survey. This survey is conducted every January, and a similar survey is conducted every July.